

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
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LB 211

Legislature. Senator Preister's aide has just brought this to me that it's my understanding that all vehicles under DAS are now designated as nonsmoking, as well as Department of Roads vehicles, I did not know that, and that the bill has been around for a while, and it has had some hearings. So I...I'm carrying this for Senator Preister, and my concerns were met, and I thought everyone else's were, too. Apparently...I apologize to Senator Landis for saying that all the concerns had been met, apparently they hadn't. So, with that, I would still ask you for the...to support the amendments on...of...for the bill. Thank you.

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Senator Janssen. Senator Coordsen.

SENATOR COORDSEN: Only, thank you, Madam President, to briefly remind the people where we started out with LB 211. The smoking policy in Nebraska that has...in the Nebraska State Capitol, which 211 proposed in its original form to take care of, was to ban smoking. And to the best of my knowledge of the way that has currently been handled is that the Legislative Council controls all of the floor space of the Capitol, other than that that's occupied by the court or the constitutional offices. If there is an exception to what I'm about to say, I do not know what that exception is. I do not believe that there are any smoking areas in the court section. If there are any smoking areas or any smoking allowed in the constitutional officer areas of the Capitol, I am not aware of that. I will tell you that in the part of the Capitol that we're responsible for, which is all of the rest, there is one public smoking area, and that is the cafeteria, the back room in the cafeteria. And with all of the debate that's happened on 211, on the number of times, I have yet to have one person come and say, George, would you ban smoking in all of the Capitol. It's not happened. We decided that we had to pass a law to do something that doesn't need a law to be passed. Now we're going to do this, and that's fine with me; it makes me absolutely no difference. But it's an interesting activity when you look at it from the perspective of what can be accomplished through simply rule and regulation and the direction of the people who are individually responsible throughout all of the state agencies, the university system, or the Legislative Council. Thank you, Madam President.